

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05

SAJ-01 AEC-05 OMB-01 IO-10 AECE-00 /071 W

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P R 261000Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6982

INFO COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JAPAN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16796

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJ: NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY

REF: TOKYO 14229

SUMMARY: FONMIN PRESENTED GOJ UNIFIED VIEW ON NUCLEAR ISSUE
TO DIET DECEMBER 25. END SUMMARY

1. AT DECEMBER 25 MEETING OF UPPER HOUSE CABINET COMMITTEE
FONMIN DELIVERED GOJ UNIFIED VIEW ON NUCLEAR TRANSIT ISSUE
AS PROMISED TO DIET OCTOBER 31 (REFTEL). FONOFF HAS PROVIDED
TEXT OF STATEMENT WHICH MIYAZAWA READ VERBATIM. EMBASSY
TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

2. QTE THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE POSITION THE GOVERNMENT
CLARIFIED UPON ITS ENTRY INTO THE TERRITORIAL WATERS TREATY
IN 1968, CONCERNING THE PROBLEM OF INNOCENT PASSAGE BY FOREIGN
WARSHIPS UNDER GENERAL INTERNATIONAL LAW -- THAT IS, THE POSITION
OF THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT RECOGNIZE PASSAGE THROUGH OUR
TERRITORIAL WATERS BY FOREIGN WARSHIPS, SUCH AS POLARIS
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SUBMARINES AND OTHER SIMILAR WARSHIPS WHICH ARE ORDINARILY (JOJI)

NUCLEAR EQUIPPED, AS INNOCENT PASSAGE UNDER PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE 14 OF THE TERRITORIAL WATERS TREATY, AND CONSEQUENTLY RESERVES THE RIGHT THAT IT WILL NOT PERMIT THEIR PASSAGE, IN PRINCIPLE. PARA. UNDER THE JAPAN-US SECURITY TREATY, IT IS GENERALLY RECOGNIZED (MITOMERARETEIRU) THAT US WARSHIPS CAN FREELY PASS THROUGH OUR TERRITORIAL WATERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY AND ITS RELATED ARRANGEMENTS, BUT IN CASE BRINGING IN OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (KAKU NO MOCHIKOMI) IS TO BE CARRIED OUT, THEY SHALL BE ALL SUBJECT TO PRIOR CONSULTATIONS END QTE.

3. BY PRIOR AGREEMENT OF STEERING COMMITTEE, OPPOSITION DID NOT QUESTION MIYAZAWA ON STATEMENT. JCP MEMBER NAITO, WHO ORIGINALLY DEMANDED UNIFIED VIEW, SAID HE WOULD PURSUE GOVERNMENT LATER, PARTICULARLY AS TO WHEN GOVERNMENT HAD CHANGED POSITION AND AS TO WHETHER GOJ HAD INFORMED USG OF CHANGE IN POSITION.

4. PRESS GAVE STRAIGHT FORWARD BUT RELATIVELY LOW KEYED COVERAGE TO GOJ STATEMENT AND TO NAITO'S COMMENT AND GENERALLY NOTED THAT STATEMENT LEFT CERTAIN QUESTIONS UNANSWERED. ASAHI NOTED THAT STATEMENT SHED NO LIGHT ON QUESTION OF WHETHER TEMPORARY TRANSIT OF NUCLEAR ARMED SHIP CONSTITUTES NUCLEAR INTRODUCTION. MAINICHI NOTED THAT STATEMENT DID NOT INDICATE USG AGREEMENT AND MIGHT AMOUNT TO NO MORE THAN ONE-SIDED GOJ INTERPRETATION. PRESS PREDICTED THAT NUCLEAR DEBATE WILL CONTINUE WHEN DIET RECONVENES.

5. FONOFF SECURITY DIVISION DEPUTY TERADA APOLOGIZED ABOUT SUDDENNESS OF GOJ STATEMENT BUT NOTED THAT IT CONTAINED NO DEPARTURES FROM EARLIER GOJ STATEMENTS. HE REPORTED THAT STATEMENT CAME AFTER HEATED STEERING COMMITTEE SESSION IN WHICH JCP HAD FOUGHT ALONE AGAINST PROPOSAL TO PERMIT FONMIN TO MAKE STATEMENT WITHOUT BEING QUESTIONED. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF QUESTION ABOUT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNIFIED VIEW AND POSSIBLE CHANGE TO TWELVE MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS, TERADA SAID THAT GOJ HAS NOTED PREVIOUSLY TO THE DIET THAT IT RESERVES ITS POSITION ON THIS QUESTION WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED WHEN THE TIME COMES. EMBASSY WILL FURTHER EXPLORE IMPLICATIONS OF GOJ STATEMENT WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE GOJ OFFICIALS.

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NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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